

Mayor Campbell reported we received notice from our insurance company that Downe Township will receive an increase in our payment for allowable claims from 65% to 70+%. Our share of that increase was and additional \$98,656.38. We have collected from our insurance company approximately \$1.3M.

BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY – GOVERNING BODY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Campbell stated we do this in order to maintain 100% of our financial aid. We scored enough points to have no penalty for 2016.

Mr. Cook stated this also makes us eligible for additional grants and disbursements.

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Solicitor Carr reported on the following topics: Salary Ordinance, JIF Compliance and new policy, Litigation Matters, Subordination Issue for a Small Cities Grant Recipient, and two resumes received for the Municipal Clerk’s Position.

Mr. Carr explained in great detail the situation with the subordination request received. He gave his opinion after his review of the documents submitted. He informed the Committee this is an opportunity to help a resident get the financing needed to be able to stay in her home.

Mr. Cook asked if Mr. Carr recommends the subordination.

Mr. Carr answered the Committee must bear in mind you don’t want to change the historical approach of the Township which is not pro subordination. You have to not treat these requestors any different then you have treated anyone else. You are being asked to abate a hardship to a resident and this makes it easy to meet them half way and give them the help they need. They are not getting any cash out, they are not putting the Township money in any worse position then it is today.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Cook to open the meeting for comments on the following resolutions.

Vote: All in favor

- R-98-2015 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills*
- R-99-2015 *Appointing Individuals to the Environmental Commission*
- R-100-2015 *Appointing a Member to the Combined Planning Board*
- R-101-2015 *Authorizing the Refund of Property Taxes*
- R-102-2015 *Authorizing the Cancellation of Property Taxes for Property Acquired by Downe Township*
- R-103-2015 *Regarding the Subordination of a Mortgage to Downe Township Dated 4/24/2009 Recorded 5/20/2009 in the Amount of \$14,400*

Joseph Cerone, Dividing Creek, asked for explanation of an invoice for office supplies charged to Miscellaneous Mayor and Committee Account. Mayor Campbell answered this is for printer ink used to print Downe Township business from his printer. Mr. Cerone asked if the printer is located in the Township Building. Mayor Campbell stated the printer is located in his home office. Mr. Cerone stated the money for those office supplies should be refunded to the Township.

Mr. Cerone asked about the charges for EHRA listed on the bill list. Mr. Cerone pointed out he was told this company is being paid by FEMA funds. Why are we paying these bills? Mayor Campbell answered the titles listed on the bill list represent the FEMA PW's for each project. These projects are all reimbursable by FEMA. We have to pay the invoices and after we pay them, then a RFR (request for reimbursement) is prepared and submitted to FEMA for payment. After the project is completed it is moved to the closeout phase. At closeout all final bills are paid out. Before the projects are closed out, these bills we are paying to EHRA get included in an RFR for reimbursement. EHRA is doing the work to get us money back from FEMA from the projects we have done.

Mr. Cerone continued he doesn't remember a resolution authorizing the hiring of EHRA. Mayor Campbell answered he worked out the agreement with EHRA through the FEMA appointment given by the Committee to get the projects done. Mr. Cerone asked if there was a resolution. Mayor Campbell answered there is no resolution. Mr. Cerone committed there is no way we can possibly pay this bill. The Committee who runs this community did not pass a resolution to hire EHRA. Mr. Cerone continued how does a company get hired by you without a resolution.

Mr. Cerone asked for the identification of the properties associated with Resolution R-103-2015. Mayor Campbell stated this property was donated to the Township before the owner passed. The property is beachfront and is under water and should be owned by the Township for future projects. Why is it not going up for auction?

David Raudenbush, Fortescue stated Mr. Cerone's has exceeded the 5 minute time limit for comments.

Mary Pflueger, Money Island stated she was under the impression the FEMA consultants were not going to cost the taxpayer any money. There was a girl working and are we paying for her too. Mayor Campbell stated the bills are being paid and will be reimbursed by FEMA. Mrs. Pflueger stated we have to pay first and hope that we get reimbursed. As I am looking through these PW's I don't see sewer or septic anywhere. We were told by the consultant he was doing the plans for the batch plant we were promised on Money Island by June 2016. Mayor Campbell stated our intentions are to get sewer and water on Money Island and saving the island. It is all part of a process. All we can do is keep pushing these projects and wait for the people in Trenton to get it approved. It took 8 years for the bulkhead in Money Island. It wasn't because we didn't want it. The bulkhead is moving forward. We have been approved to extend the bulkhead to the bridge. It took 2 weeks to get DEP approval on the extension. We are waiting of the US Army Corp approval. Mr. Cook commented that he is disappointed

the 20 feet extension was not figured in the original plans. There is also capping to be done before the project is completed. The reason the project stops before the bridge is because that is where the township right of way ends and the County's starts. The County dropped the ball and that is why the extension was not approved previously. Attended a meeting with the County last week and received the bridge list from the county and once again, we are at the bottom of the list with our township bridges. The county has agreed to let us fill in that gap as long as we get DEP and Army Corp approval. We have the funds in the original grant and the matching fund grant. Mrs. Pflueger asked about the bin blocks that were moved. Mayor Campbell stated the small blocks are considered debris and are a part of the agreement with the contractor to remove them. If someone has those blocks, we did not have anything to do with that. It is the responsibility of the contractor to dispose of them.

Mr. Cook commented there is an existing issue with the roadway. The very heavy equipment made the situation worst. It tore up the road even more and it depressed the whole area. I want to sit down with our engineer and look at how we are going to address that in terms of the engineering plan. We need to hear what the engineer has to say and what kind of corrective action we are going to apply.

Mr. Cook continued he is very disturbed at how the townships are treated by the County. We have talked about the bridges for years and we have heard their promises. We are not going to tolerate it. We need to insist that we be raised up on the priority list. Right now we are not being treated fairly. All residents need to contact our freeholder's office about these issues. Its election time.

Discussion continued with all committee about the safety of the bridges in Money Island and Rabins Beach. These should all be inspected. It has been said that fire trucks and OEM personnel will not travel over those bridges.

Mr. Bart stated we should have our solicitor send a letter to the County Freeholders to inform them of these safety issues. Request that the County Engineering Department come down and certify the safety of the bridge. This makes the County liable and not the township.

David Pflueger, Money Island stated he filed an OPRA request with the township clerk to get contact information for the individual Mr. McDaniel's is working with at the FEMA office and the response was only four communications were made by Mr. McDaniel to FEMA and the State from January to August. I don't understand why we are paying him so much money when he has only sent out four emails.

Mayor Campbell answered Mr. McDaniel's works for us and the only people that we are communicating with right now is Ryan Bryski. Mr. Bryski is with the State Police Office of Emergency Management and is the person that is writing the PW for the sewer and water in Gandy's Beach and Money Island and the Hazard Mitigation Plan for Maple Avenue, preparing all of the scope changes for a few projects and South Cove Road which was never completed by FEMA and OEM. It has been in federal consistency review for 2 years with Rosa Torres. All of these things are happening and Mr. Bryski in

Trenton is the person in charge. We are reluctant to have all of the residents of Downe Township calling Mr. Bryski and asking questions. We should use the proper chain of command. Mr. Bryski is currently waiting for some paperwork about the scope changes and mitigation plans from me. They want to know why did we go from vinyl to steel. Because we wanted the bulkhead to stay in place. They need a letter from us for their files. Mr. Bryski is very positive and 100% sure we are going to get everything we want. We have to be patient and we have to play the game and deal with the bureaucracy.

Mr. Pflueger asked if he could ask Mr. McDaniel a question. Mr. Cook answered he would asked you not to do that. We did not know that he was going to be here. We are talking about paying the bill. I would rather you make your statement as opposed to questioning others who are in the room.

Mr. Pflueger continued he filed an OPRA request and he doesn't feel he received all the information or did the township not give me all the information. Mayor Campbell stated that complaint needs to be addressed to the Clerk.

Mr. Cook stated the Committee is the one who is accountable and it should be directed to us. We are accountable to you to find realistic credible answers.

Mr. Pflueger stated that since January Mr. McDaniel's has only sent 4 or 5 emails to FEMA and the State and I filed an OPRA request and that's all I got. I find it odd that in that amount of time a guy would only send 4 or 5 emails.

Mayor Campbell stated Mr. McDaniel's is not the person that sends the paperwork to the State. Mr. McDaniel's is working for us and preparing the RFR and working with Jennafer. Everything that is sent in there has to be with proof of payment. When an RFR is sent in for reimbursement on North Cove Road Bulkhead, we have to send in a copy of the check we paid Loftus, a copy of GNG Electric Company, a copy of the check we gave everybody. There are all kinds of documents that go with the process. He doesn't deal with FEMA, he gets the submittal together and prepares a package to send to FEMA which is sent in by Stefany through the FEMA online processing system. Mr. McDaniel just puts the packages together, that's his job.

Kathy Ryan, Fortescue, stated she read an article about our beach area elevation being at 15. The ocean number had been wiped out.

Mayor Campbell answered the ocean number is wiped out because we could make ours go away. The ocean side went away because you either had to raise your house to elevation 11 or 15 or you had to build a beach, build a dune, plant dune grass and create a natural barrier between storm surge and the house designed for a 3 foot storm surge. Our elevation is 13 but you have to go to 15 by putting in an extra foot of freeboard and then the governor added an additional foot, making 15 where your finished floor must be. Army Corp and DEP have patterned and have decided they are going to build a beach re-nourishment project in Fortescue and Gandy's Beach. In discussions we found it was going to be a \$10M project. It was later determined that if the projects were broken into two, they would get \$10M each. We agreed to do two separate projects with a \$10M cap.

About three months ago we sent out right of entry letters to the residents to help the Army Corp process. We have received the right of entry letters so the Army Corp and DEP can enter properties to take measurements and elevation information. The project is in the works and is not a pipe dream. Someone said why don't we put dunes in that area. It was decided that if we are going to do this, lets put the dunes in, lets plant the grass and make the "V" zones go away. So they have decided to do it. It is now the plan to build beaches and dunes in front of Money Island and Gandy Beach. At the same time, we approved the Hatch Mott MacDonald engineering proposal. They are doing the breakwater for Gandy's Beach to hold the sand. This is part of a habitat restoration project that is underway also.

Mr. Cook commented we are asking if the dredging material at Nantunext Creek can be applied to the sand on our beaches. We have about 6 different funding sources and players that we are providing coordination and cooperation to. It is going to take all of those players to address the insurance issues and the elevation issues.

Ms. Ryan continued perhaps the most recent storm might have worked in our favor. When the ocean side was beaten up and they didn't have this issue. We on the other hand were not beaten up and we have this elevation number.

Mr. Cook continued we are called a living shoreline for a reason. That sand is always moving for the good and the bad. We are addressing the elevation issues because very few of us can afford those insurance rates. If you don't have to do the elevation but as you know, no one will insure us unless we do. We will get the sand dunes and the beach replenishment.

Mr. Campbell stated not long after Hurricane Sandy Christie said we are going to fix everything from Sea Bright all the way up the bay to Elseboro, and then it stopped at Cape May. What's happening with the Army Corp and the DEP has nothing to do with that claim or that administrative order?

There being no further comments, a motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Byrne to close the Public Comment segment.

Vote: All in favor

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-98-2015 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills*.

Mr. Cook stated he would like the EHRA invoices separated from the list in the amount of approximately \$100,000. This is a most serious issue all of us are very concerned about it. We have a profound accountability and responsibility for these invoices. As I understand it, this represents a couple of months of expenses. There are many more months to come. I am very dissatisfied with the performance of this consultant. I am very concerned in the initial bills that were recently submitted in which I do not think that the bill was submitted forthrightly and what we have here is about

\$35,000 less than the bill that was submitted. This is a serious piece of change. A close review raises many troubling questions. This bill was just received on Friday. I have not seen personally any of the details surrounding this. I do not think except for one person, that any of us even saw a contract prior to this evening. I just received it and I have had no time to review the contract. I had no input in it and I didn't vote on it. It was not approved by the Downe Township Committee. To have a discrepancy of \$35,000 in a bill raises all sorts of questions that I am accountable for. My understanding had always been that this private consultant gets paid when Downe Township gets paid. But Downe Township does not put out Downe Township money. I do not have the confidence that the State is going to automatically reimburse these expenses. Look how long this has been going on. We are about to celebrate the three year anniversary of Hurricane Sandy. What happens when this Governor leaves? This is still not going to have been resolved. A new person can come in and say "Hey Downe Township all bets are off". We have not received this money. Then on Friday we get a new bill with a bunch of PW's. Is any of it legitimate? Will it hold up in Trenton and Washington? Is it going to stand up to an audit? I have no confidence that it will. Before we pay out Downe Township tax dollars, I think we need a lot more assurances. My understanding has always been they get paid when we get paid. We need to have a thorough review of these bills.

Mayor Campbell stated this is a reimbursement invoice. All of our invoices with FEMA are reimbursable. We pay then we get reimbursed. We can pull it off the bill list and take the time to review it.

Mr. Cook continued his wish is that they would stop because they haven't done not even 25% of the production that I was lead to believe they would be accomplishing. I don't really like to be sent on a wild goose chases with this firm. I think this is far too expensive in terms of the production that we are getting. We do not need this level of hourly expense, etc. these individuals are being paid. Others could have done it at a pittance of the costs I am seeing. We need to have a full review of these bills.

Mayor Campbell continued the fees are based on the FEMA handbook. We have to do things by FEMA's guidelines using their approved rates. These guys did not make these fees up. I am in agreement with you guys. All I want to do is get our money back and finish these projects. These guys were supposed to be professionals that can make that happen. Things don't happen as fast as we want them to but we must move forward. We can pull this bill. Review all the stuff that was emailed to you and decide what to do.

Mr. Jordan retraced his previous motion.

Mayor Campbell asked for motion to approve the bill list in the new amount of \$452,673.97. (removed two invoices for EHRA) Motion made by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mr. Bart.

ROLL CALL

Aye – Jordan, Byrne, Cook, Bart, Campbell

Nay – 0

Mayor Campbell asked Mr. Cook if he would take the lead on a review committee for the invoices and keep this moving forward. Mr. Cook stated he would take the lead and Mr. Jordan will assist Mr. Cook.

Mayor Campbell added it is critical that this process gets done. It cannot go on a back burner and can't be put off until next month. We need production.

Resolution No. R-99-2015 *Appointing Individuals to the Environmental Commission* and Resolution No. R-100-2015 *Appointing a Member to the Combined Planning Board*.

Motion made to approve R-99-2015 and R-100-2015 by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mr. Byrne. Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Cook to adopt Resolution No. R-101-2015 *Authorizing the Refund of Property Taxes* and Resolution R-102-2015 *Authorizing the Cancellation of Property Taxes for Property Acquired by Downe Township*
Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Mr. Byrne and seconded by Mr. Campbell for Resolution R-103-2015 *Regarding the Subordination of a Mortgage to Downe Township Dated 4/24/2009 Recorded on 5/20/2009 at Mortgage Book 4057 Page 7794 in the amount of \$14,400*.

Mr. Jordan stated although he isn't going to vote, he would like to say if he was in the same situation he would hope that the Committee would help and support him in this situation to be able to stay in their home.

Mr. Cook asked what prevents the owner from taking the equity out of their house.

Mr. Carr stated they would have to come back before the Committee because there is still a lien.

Mr. Cook stated they would not be allowed and this is in the legal documents.

Mr. Carr answered the subordination agreement is in the amount of \$81,000. Today the existing lien is \$77,000 and when they are done because of the expenses related to the refinance it is at \$81,000. The first mortgage today is \$800 a month and what they are proposing is \$410 a month. This is substantial.

Mr. Cook asked if this adds to the term.

Mr. Carr answered our lien gets paid back upon the sale of the home. There are no real terms on our payback.

Mr. Levenknight, Newport, asked if the lien has to be satisfied when the mortgage is paid off.

Mayor Campbell answered no; the lien is paid at the sale of the property.

Mr. Cook asked for the stated value of the property. We all know that the values of our properties are dropping in Downe Township. Mr. Carr answered the present market value is \$130,000.

Mayor Campbell asked how old the mortgage is. Mr. Carr answered 2004.

Mr. Cook continued he would like to have an appraisal of this property as of the end of 2015. Our properties are not worth what some say they are. We find that out when we try to sell them. That should be a basic requirement. If the property turns over, we are a second lien holder.

ROLL CALL

Aye – Byrne, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Nay
Abstain - Jordan

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION

Ordinance No. 7-2015 entitled “*An Ordinance Establishing Salaries and Wages for the Officers and Employees of the Township of Downe for the Year 2015*” was introduced on first reading on a motion by Bart and seconded by Cook. The public hearing and second reading of the Ordinance will be held at the next Regular Meeting on November 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Roll Call: Aye – Jordan, Byrne, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Nay – 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS / CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Campbell reported JIF sent us an additional payment which moves us from 65% up to 70.26%. This is the final audit of the claims. We will be receiving a check for \$98,656.38 from our Hurricane Sandy claims. There were actually 9 projects that were identified as insurance payment projects. For instance, if we have a FEMA project for \$1000 and the insurance company paid \$500 FEMA has to give us the other \$500.

Mr. Cook stated it is a complex situation and we need to spend more time looking at this. We must apply the \$98K to pay off one of our notes. This was found money and that’s my recommendation to the committee. We as a committee have to sit down and look at these 9 projects. I have some concerns and some issues on conflicts of interest, etc. I really need this information in order to move forward on recommendations and future votes. I am requesting a work session or whatever in which we can thoroughly

review this private insurance money. The state initially took the previous money we got from our insurance company right off the top of bills we had submitted and didn't inform us. Which has delayed things also. We have to look at this whole thing and the sooner the better.

Mayor Campbell confirmed that someone that was processing our FEMA reimbursements applied some of the insurance payments to incorrect projects.

Mayor Campbell continued there are a couple of applications from NJDEP from people who have applied for holding tanks. There is a Hurricane Sandy claims review extension for individual claims until October 15th. We have a potential application to USDA for a grant from Public Works equipment. In the past they have never allowed us to apply for anything that had to do with any vehicles except emergency vehicles. There is a grant right now available for equipment for the municipality. We have older vehicles and look forward to submitting this application. We received the County Health Department Reports for March, April, May, June and July and as usual Downe Township received no services. But we continue to send them \$75,000 a year for their wonderful services they provide for us.

Mr. Cook stated we received a written letter from our Township Engineer sharing with us that due to a deteriorating health conditions he will not be able to continue the Township form 2016. We appreciate his early announcement. I recommend to the committee since the township engineer is a very critical service, that we advertise for bids now. We know in another month we are going to be into the rush of closing and reorganization. I would like to request that we have the authorization to go out for bids for this service right away. We should not let this go another month.

Mayor Campbell stated if we request RFP/RFQ's now we could have them in by the November or December meeting for review.

Mr. Cook stated we could establish a sub-committee to review the requests received, so at the December meeting we could make a recommendation and start to get everything in place. It is going to be a disruption however we measure this thing.

Mayor Campbell stated we have the ability to appoint someone if we want to and not do RFP's. The decision is up to the committee. We have to understand that it is possible that we will be paying a lot more for engineering services. Mr. Battistini currently works with Mr. Tedesco from Bridgeton. We could appoint him as long as the terms are the same.

Discussion continue to having an engineer who can continue with our current projects with some knowledge of what we have going on is an advantage to the township. The bidding process gives an opportunity to review all the costs equally.

Mr. Cook stated Green Acres sent us a happy letter stating they want to have a kick off meeting so they can talk to all the residents they have contacted and they want to have it here at the Township building. Mr. Cook is very opposed to it. They have deceived us

and said they were only interested in properties from the west end of Money Island to the end and we know they are not keeping with that. They continue to want to take more and more of our ratables. All of the remaining taxpayers are going to pay more taxes. We are not in agreement with this. Mr. Cook continued he is in opposition to the meeting being held here. If they come here I will be outside with a sign. Enough is enough. Let them go somewhere else and have their meeting. To welcome them in is something I oppose. Our neighbors see us as be compliant with them and I say no. They have a right to have their meeting. I do not want to cooperate with it, facilitate it or coordinate it. I ask that the Committee deny their request.

Mayor Campbell stated we are all on the same page with Blue Acres and Green Acres. We do not want to lose any more of our ratables and we don't want them to take any more of our properties. They are going to have this meeting whether we like it or not. Is it fair for us to not cooperate, but at the same time wherever the meeting is I want to be there and know what is going on. Should we have our resident travel to the meeting or have it here.

Mr. Bart commented we should not put our residents out of their way to attend a meeting that can be held here.

Mr. Jordan stated he is not on board with the Blue Acres Program, but these are our residents and they have a right to use this building.

Mayor Campbell agrees to the use of the building for the meeting.

Mr. Cook stated for most of the people invited to the meeting it would be more convenient for them to attend elsewhere because it will be closer for them.

Mayor Campbell asked if any of the Money Island residents in attendance would like to speak.

Mr. Pflueger stated they have lied to him and they are very deceitful. He will not be attending the meeting.

Mr. Bart stated he thinks the people who will be attending are the ones who have applied and not the ones who are planning to stay.

Mr. Cook stated that in Trenton they believe we are all on board. This letter speaks of that. I think they have broken laws. Things are not good and we have been good up until now. If someone what to sell they will go to Trenton.

Mayor Campbell asked for the committee consensus. Mr. Jordan says have the meeting here. Mr. Byrne says have the meeting here. Mr. Bart says have the meeting here. Mr. Cook says let the meeting be held somewhere else.

Mr. Cook thank Ms. Lockley for polling other towns on the day and time for trick or treat. Downe Township will observe Halloween Trick or Treat on October 31st from 4pm-7pm.

Mr. Cook stated he would like to the \$100,000 of found money go to pay off the bond. The USDA has stated many times they are available to help with our wastewater management issues. If they are buying trucks now, I would like them to buy us one of the holding tank trucks and go to our three islands and suck up all that good stuff and take it out to the farms for the spring crop. The USDA has been a real friend and I think we should go to them with a wastewater management project. They will say that request is of a different category. They will look at it and say lets give Downe Township this vehicle. I would like us to go after the money to somehow address the septic and wastewater management issues in Downe Township, whether it is for a vehicle or something more. We would like to welcome Ms. Lockley who has really stepped up to the plate and is acting as our clerk. We are very fortunate to have her going forward. Ms. Lockley has also brought to out the attention that we can no longer update our website information since July. Our software cannot access the website because the domain carrier does not support it. We need new software and no one is training in the office in the use of that software. We are investigating the best way to respond to this situation. As of now, our website has not been live. Mr. Cook thanked Ms. Lockley for bring this to the table.

Mr. Bart had nothing to report.

Mayor Campbell stated on behalf of the public works department, when we received the emergency declaration from Governor Christie on the nor'easter and Joaquin coming up the coast, we met with Public Works and emergency management office we had everyone in place and we were ready for the weather. Thank God the storms went somewhere else.

Mr. Byrne stated last month Kary Wilson asked a question about the amount the animal control officer is paid. After looking into it, the bill in question was for four month. We pay \$300 a month which is \$3,600 a year for 40 calls. After 40 calls the fee is \$90 per call. Since she isn't here I will contact her and give her this information.

Mr. Jordan had nothing to report.

Mayor Campbell reported Fortescue Creek is very close to the start of a dredging project from the public ramp all the way to the middle of the channel. We have been working with the DOT dredging team. All of the permits are in place. There is one individual in Fortescue holding up the process. The project is ready to go out to bid. They are pushing to get it out as fast as they can because the window closes December 31st for winter flounder. There is also a big push about getting the winter flounder restriction removed. This is a \$5M dredging project by the DOT. This is good news.

Mayor Campbell stated he mentioned earlier about the resolution for a change order for Walters Marine to finish the bulkhead from where it is now to up to the bridge. This is close to being approved and ready to go. We need to pass the resolution. Mayor

Campbell asked for a motion to approve Resolution R-104-2015 *Change Order No. 1 to Walter's Marine Construction for the Money Island Bulkhead Project*. Motion was made by Mr. Bart and seconded by Mr. Cook. Vote: All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mr. Bart, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

Vote: All in favor.

Mr. Bob Pignatelli of New Jersey Avenue in Fortescue asked what's going on with the sewer. Mayor Campbell stated at the last meeting we approved a resolution for Hatch Mott MacDonald contract to work with Mr. Battistini to do the feasibility study and the planning for the sewer batch plant in Fortescue. We have a \$30,000 search grant from USDA and they are on board to help us finance the entire project. There is a kick off meeting scheduled. The first thing they need to do is come out and site where the actual plant will be. This should happen in a week or so. When they are here we have asked them into taking a trip to Gandy's Beach and Money Island and visually site out things for those two areas. There is a batch plant operating near Marmora that I am planning to visit since I have been told there are no batch plants operating in this area. I would like to see one that is in operation. The wheels are turning. Mr. Pignatelli asked where the Fortescue plant will be located. Mayor Campbell answered this will be determined after the walk thru I just spoke about. Mr. Pignatelli asked how long the process will take. Mayor Campbell answered as long as things keep moving he estimates 18 to 24 months.

Mr. David Raudenbush of Fortescue says he knows of someone who is an expert with websites and he could possibly be of assistance to the township.

Mr. Cerone of Dividing Creek stated he is not sure of what he witnessed earlier but it seems like an ethics violation to him. Mayor Campbell admitted the \$65.96 was for a printer in his home but yet he voted to pay himself for it. Mayor Campbell answered this was brought up before and we looked into it. The vouchers are all signed off on and approved by the department heads. This is the approval to pay the voucher. Then the vouchers go to Mrs. Hernandez to certify the funds are available. When we vote on the resolution to pay the bills we are voting to spend the money that has been certified by the CFO. Mr. Cerone continued until Mayor Campbell admitted the bill was for something that is in your house, the other committee members had not idea about it. So you have deceived all of them and then you vote to pay yourself. Mayor Campbell stated Mr. Cook has been to my house and has seen my office and he knows that I use my computer and my printer to do Downe Township business. Mr. Cerone continued you are saying that Mr. Cook agreed to buy you printer ink for your personal printer. So you are also saying there is township property in your house. Mayor Campbell stated when he retires the printer will come back to the township and they can do whatever they want with it. Mr. Cerone stated no township owned property should be anywhere near your house. It should be under this roof.

Ms. Karen Smith of Rabin's Beach stated when Mr. Cook was speaking about Green Acres and Blue Acres she realizes they need information. It should be stated that the residents can back out at any time. The thing that I don't want people to overlook is we talk about the wolf on the doorstep but we completely ignore the wolf that owns 80% of the township, the Natural Lands Trust. We don't want any impression that you are giving any kind of approval or cooperation that you are working with Blue Acres and yet how often do we say Natural Lands Trust is so good to the township in lieu of paying taxes. I can do the little bit the NLT is doing in lieu of paying my taxes. We have written letters to them and our attorney has written them letter. We have challenged them for neglecting their property and not living up to the local ordinances and they have basically ignored us because they have more money than we have. They do not respond to us and we sit back and act like they are our friends. Now they own 80% of our lands and they are lousy neighbors. I would like to see a little of that animosity and anger toward the NLT. I am more worried about them because they don't pay taxes and continue to neglect their properties, especially where I live, you will have 5 more beachfront homes in jeopardy. This should be on your to do list. Mayor Campbell stated it is on our radar. We are quite upset about the Coll property they just obtained. I had made calls to Trenton and was told nothing. All of a sudden the deed shows up in the office that the property had been purchased. We lose a good ratable and there was nothing we could do to stop it. They operate within the law whether we like it or not. The only way to change this is through legislation. They shouldn't be allowed tax exemption unless there is a conservation easement on the property. That is why Mr. Jordan and I spoke with Assembly Majority Leader Greenwald who seems to be on board with us. He may be able to give us a hand. These things are all time consuming. We have to get the process going but nothing will happen legislatively until next year's session. We are also working with him on the pilot funding. We are working. This is another big task in this township. Ms. Smith continued the NLT has had a sink hole on their property for over three years that is nothing but a trap for the horseshoe crabs.

Mr. Cook stated last month we did not accept Mr. Eisenhauers proposal and check he sent in to us as he was trying to pull a fast one. We sent his check back to him for all the reasons you just spoke about. The laws are stacked against us because they are doing all of this legally. Municipal government is the worst place to be. The county and the state tell the rest of us what we have to do. They tell us what our taxes have to be. I don't know why we continue to put up with it.

Mr. Jordan stated NLT owns a lot of our lands but they don't own 80% as mentioned. Downe Township is 80% tax exempt because NLT and the State together own the 80%.

Mr. Cook stated these 501C organizations are simply an arm of the DEP.

Mayor Campbell stated we are at about 82%. He had conversations with the DEP and their goal statewide is for 46% of the State of New Jersey to be open space tax exempt land. They are at about 30%.

Mr. Cook stated we just voted a constitutional amendment that gives them 100's of millions of new money to come in and buy more land. When we stop sending the full

amount to the county maybe we will get some attention. Then we can say that since you are taking away our ratables, you solve the problem. They want their money and if you don't meet their deadline, the interest is unbelievable. We are too nice and we need to make a lot more noise. Its getting worse.

Mary Pfluger of Money Island stated she is confused about the batch plant. There was a meeting with the residents of Money Island and you gave us documentation that stated that we would be #1. Foretescue has a good historic background and it is going to stay. Money Island is going and we are going fast.

Mayor Campbell agreed with Mrs. Pfluger. He stated that we here support Money Island. There are others out there that are not. The County have had about 4 meetings about their sewer main extension and how they are going to resolve our problems here in Downe Township. In their plan that I have seen a few times, they are planning to do a sewer main extension from the Bridgeton sewer plant down Route 553 and phase I is to connect Fortescue, Gandy's Beach, Newport and Dividing Creek. When they make their announcements at these meetings, I always yell out, Money Island. Money Island is on our radar. We are not willing to give in if Money Island is not included. The stated it is going to cost \$35M to run the sewer main and hook into the four communities. I asked who is going to pay for that. They tell me we have to do the financing. I then ask what is the County doing. They emphasize that they are not kicking in anything. While we are trying to keep you happy and give you as much information as we can, this is what we are dealing with. We are dealing with these people who are dead set against us. Ken Mecouch from the County stated Bob Martin gave us \$100,000 with the understanding that it is for the other communities and not Money Island.

Mr. Jordan commented it was our intention to have Money Island first on the list. We had \$100,000 that was promised to us to do the batch plant. We had planned to do the Money Island study with those funds.

Mrs. Pflueger stated she thought Mr. McDaniel's was doing the plans and we were #1.

Mayor Campbell stated Mr. McDaniel's is doing the application for the FEMA grants funds not drawing up plans. When Mr. Martin took away our money and USDA only gave us \$30,000 for Fortescue. Mr. MacDaniels said to me FEMA has done this for private homeowners in Alabama. We then decided to try that avenue. We are still anticipating FEMA with cover this project. If we accomplish this task, that will push back on Blue Acres, Green Acres and Bob Martin. IF we get financing and plans for sewer in Money Island and Gandy's Beach there will no more complaints from them.

Numerous residents started speaking at the same time voicing their concerns about Blue Acres.

Mrs. Phleuger stated they (Blue Acres) are quickly approaching us. Mrs. Pfluger asked if the water quality tests gave good results.

Mayor Campbell answered yes. Absolutely the same as the first one testing except for a few traces of bird feces. We are good to go.

Mr. Pflueger asked if our system was the only one contaminated by Sandy.

Mayor Campbell responded that is part of our strength in the case to show they used selective enforcement. Your systems are down the street from Gandy's Beach and they didn't pick on that area or any of the other shore areas around here.

Mr. Pflueger asked what is the big plan with DEP. Why do they want Money Island so badly.

Mayor Campbell stated we have asked that question. He was told that Governor Christie was on a mission to meet the 46% open space before he leaves office.

Mr. Cook commented it is for the same reason they want Gandy's Beach, Fortescue and Thompson Beach, Sea Breeze and Bay Point. They don't want anybody on the Delaware Bay.

Mrs. Pflueger asked is they are after the oystermen also. What is so good about the oystermen. We have homes with working septic and I don't see anything they have. Can we get them on our side.

Mayor Campbell answered the oyster industry and fishing industry is a huge lobby. The oystermen have met with the DEP and other commissioners supporting us. Of course they are more concerned about their world. We are working hard but it is extremely complicated because everything overlaps. Mayor Campbell spoke about all the different projects and the different agencies involved in the process.

Mrs. Pflueger asked is DEP will allow the batch plant to dispense fresh water when it is done.

Mayor Campbell stated he can't answer for the DEP but what choice do they have. They want the septic gone. Cumberland County is not in an approved wastewater management area. Because of this the DEP will have to sign off on all kinds of waivers to allow Downe Township to put public sewer in their township because it is not on the states master plan.

Mrs. Pflueger asked when Mr. Martin will be out of office.

Mayor Campbell stated probably when Christie goes.

Mr. Cook stated he would like to thank Doug Cook for his door to door efforts to bring better access for high speed internet services. Verizon agreed that if 35 residents from a community signed a petition they would seriously investigate and proceed. Please sign the petitions and give them to Mr. Doug Cook and they will be sent to Trenton.

Mr. Cook stated not a day goes by he doesn't hear about a new victim to some computer/phone scam issue. I prepared this handout of a variety of issues of these types of scams. This involves a lot of different type of scams that a popular today. Our seniors and young adults are targets of these scams. Please distribute this information.

There being no further comments, the public segment was closed on a motion by Byrne and seconded by Cook.

Vote: All in favor

RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Cook to adopt Resolution No. R-105-2015 *Authorizing Executive Session In Accordance With The Provisions Of The Open Public Meetings Act – N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Re: Matter relating to anticipated litigation and contract negotiations in which the public body may become a party pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7) and as pertains to: Personnel matters related to the employment, appointment or termination of current or prospective employees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(8).* It was anticipated that no action would be taken.

Vote: All in favor

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex
OPEN SESSION

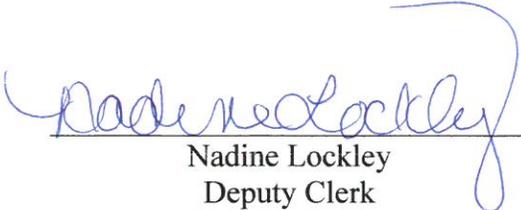
A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Byrne to reopen the meeting to the public.

Vote: All in favor

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Campbell and seconded by Cook.

Vote: All in favor


Nadine Lockley
Deputy Clerk